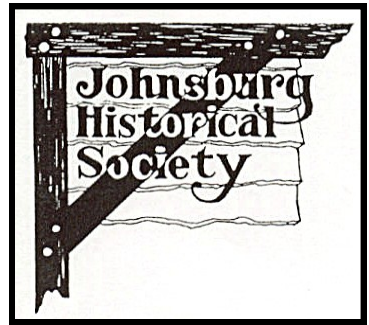


Johnsburg Historical Society

News

Celebrating Our 45th Year



Volume XII

Number 1

Summer 2018

13th Edition

Dessert with the Dead, Exhibits, Folk Art Demo, Poetry Reading, TPCC Program and Wait Wait, There's More.....

"History Days" Weekend Plans Underway

Town of Johnsburg's annual History Days Weekend is growing into a major fun event involving several town organizations. Johnsborg Historical Society, North Creek Railroad Depot Museum, OTTG and the newly formed GEM Radio Theatre are collaborating to produce a weekend of back-to-back activities which will focus on the town's unique history. Save the dates: September 14, 15 and 16, 2018 at multiple locations throughout the town.

Friday, September 14, 7 p.m.: GEM Radio Theatre

present "Dessert with the Dead" following a dramatic Graveyard Walk through Main Street's Union Cemetery adjacent to the North Creek Baptist Church. Actors in period costume will portray some of the former town residents buried there. Family names will be familiar, since many generations have remained in Johnsborg's hamlets for more than two centuries.

Wear comfortable shoes! Lighting and lanterns will be provided, but additional flashlights would be appreciated.

Dessert and beverages will follow at the Fellowship

Room of the adjacent Baptist Church.

We are indebted to Ken and Sharon Hammond of the North Creek Baptist Church. The Hammonds have worked tirelessly to maintain the Union Cemetery, which is in dire need of professional upkeep, and they have provided us with valuable historical information on many of the deceased.

Reasonably priced tickets will be on sale during the summer months. Reservations are suggested.

Saturday, September 15: JHS will be offering displays, newsletters, books for sale, and a quilt raffle at the Ski Bowl Park pavilion. A folk art program will feature well-known woodcarver Jack Masten at his home workshop in North Creek (carpooling from Ski Bowl Park is encouraged).

An Open House at the Depot Museum and an exhibit at the Owens House at the railroad complex. (Continued on Page 5)

Gifts for Grads: JHS Presents to JCS

JHS Presents at "Gifts to Grads" Program

In what has become an annual event, Johnsborg Historical Society presented a book of local history to each of the twenty-three graduating seniors at Johnsborg Central School on June 11. Social Studies Department members Mr. Russell Moro and Mr. Matthew Wells, as well as eight members of Johnsborg Historical Society, were in attendance.

Copies of the book, *Echoes in These Mountains*, were individually wrapped and inscribed with the student's name. In his highly-acclaimed book, author Glenn Pearsall describes sixty historical sites in the Town of Johnsborg which are accessible, with geographical coordinates given.

At the time of the book release, Adirondack Museum's librarian, Jerry Pepper, had this to say: "By mapping the GPS locations of historic sites in the Town of Johnsborg before they disappear, Glenn L. Pearsall's *Echoes in These Mountains* connects Johnsborg's past with Johnsborg's present and assures them a place in Johnsborg's future. It should be required reading for everyone in town, newcomer and old-timer alike."

The graduating class includes the triplets Seamus, Casey and Brendan Tomb, who were given three different books of local history rather than three copies of the same book. Many thanks are extended to Suzie and Michael Anderson of Johnsborg Historical Society for the beautiful gift-wrapping and calligraphy.

JHS congratulates every graduate of the Class of 2018!

Congratulations to the 2018 Graduates!

Johnsburg Central School 2018 Graduates

Megan Bacon
Victoria Bradway
Maddison Bromley
Caleb Buck
Ian Conlon
Liam Connelly
Taylor Dwyer
Malysa Fonda
Tyler Green
Emma Hagadorn
Tabatha Johnson
Nathan Kinblom

Johnsburg Central School 2018 Graduates

Sasha Kinblom
Logan McKinney
Kraig Millington
Todd Millington
Patrick Riedinger
Samantha Welch
Kyle Smith
Brendan Tomb
Casey Tomb
Seamus Tomb
Dawson West
Michael Wilson



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Johnsburg Historical Society 2018

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Vice President David R. Braley
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Newsletter Editor ... Kathy Maiorana
Photography/Newsletter Layout ... David R. Braley
Town of Johnsburg Historian ... Deana Wood

Meetings: First Monday of the month at 3:00 p.m.
Wevertown Community Center

All are welcome to attend!

Mail correspondence or suggestions to JHS

JHS, P.O. Box 144, Wevertown, N.Y. 12886-0144

Phone: (518) 251-5788

Email: johnsburghhistory@gmail.com

Website: www.johnsburghhistoricalsociety.com

Johnsburg Historical Society
Proud Bearers Of the History of
The Town of Johnsburg

We Need Your Help!

Please help us to make our mailing list and database the most accurate it can be!

Send us an e-mail with your correct e-mail address, and any changes to your physical address. Send to:
johnsburghhistory@gmail.com

Thank you for helping us with this BIG ongoing project!

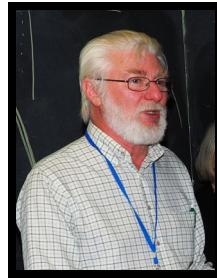
In Memoriam

Helen Cornwall
Jane Castaneda

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of our dear friends and supporters. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families in this sad time.

The JHS is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to promoting, protecting and preserving the history of the Town of Johnsburg.

Presidents Letter



“What is Past is Prologue”

Maybe this should be our bumper sticker. Certainly I don't need to explain the obvious, but is it obvious only to us historians? Most history based organizations' mission statement or credo includes an obligation to teach, that is, to bring an awareness to our respective communities of their evolution. I dare say that in the course of day-to-day life most folks never consider the birth and growth of their community but only that it exists. This commonality can have a significant positive effect for folks working together for the betterment of society.

JHS is co-sponsoring with the Depot Museum and Gem Radio Theater the first Johnsburg Grave Yard walks. This happens on September 14 as part of History Weekend. We expect to make this an annual event.

In December we had a full house General Membership Meeting and Luncheon. Watch our web page for details regarding this 2018 event.

Some long time Board Directors have retired from active participation. Lyle Dye, who retired from the Board several years ago, is residing at Elderwood Nursing Home. His enthusiasm and support are missed. Sally Heidrich is focusing her efforts elsewhere. She was an active member of the Board for more than twenty years adding unparalleled impetus to the ongoing efforts of this Historical Society. And Larry Carr, who kept our financial obligations in order for many years, is enjoying a well-deserved retirement.

We are pleased to welcome to our Board of Directors Ellen Schaefer, who has worked tirelessly for the North Creek Depot Museum, and now will lend her expertise to us as well.

‘What is past is prologue.’.

-Delbert Chambers , President, Johnsburg Historical Society

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Jerry Spitz and Nancy Sylvester are hoping to find an old photo of their 1920 home, the Pasco house on Route 28 just north of the Glen. The home was built by Elmer Pasco, and is sometimes referred to as The Murphy House. Can anyone help?

JHS Living History Program Records Lives of Residents

The Living History Committee continues to have the privilege of listening to and recording our neighbors' stories, by turns sad, funny, dramatic and surprising. The DVDs are stored at JHS and at a backup location for safety.



Chuck Barton



Jack Masten



Jack's Shop

Chuck Barton

On a hot summer tornado-warning day in August 2017, JHS Living History Committee met at Tannery Pond Community Center to interview Chuck Barton, great great grandson of Henry Hudson Barton. HH Barton was founder of HH Barton and Sons Company, North Creek's famous garnet mining enterprise. Now Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Barton Mines International, Chuck gave us a brief look at the history of a family business that has run successfully for 139 years.

Chuck, from the fifth generation of Bartons to be involved in garnet mining, described the discovery in the late 1800s of "best in the world" garnet found in the North Creek area, garnet with a special tint of red and hardness that drew geologists from all over the world to examine the unique crystals. This garnet, which is expensive to mine, can command a high price because of its desirable qualities.

The evolution from early days of high-risk mining to today's safety requirements was noted, as well as the changing garnet market, including the optical industry and now the water jet industry. Today Barton Mines International is located all over the world, and for here in the Town of Johnsbury, BMI is an essential employer, always seeking good people and compensating them well.

Chuck's advice to the younger generation is simply "Listen more than you talk." His plan for his own future is to continue to make contributions to the betterment of Barton Mines International.

Jack Masten, Wood Carver

April 2018: Rocking horses, life-like birds, canes, necklaces, medallions, pens, wall art and many other stunning works of wood are seen in Jack Masten's busy studio workshop on his North Creek 5 acre property. The shop, built by Jack and his sons, is a favorite place not only for Jack but also for the many folks who spend time there to learn how to create from a block of wood.

Jack taught Industrial Arts in Saratoga Springs for 31 years, retiring in 1989. On the day of our interview, Jack had just learned via Facebook that a former Industrial Arts student of his, Emily Murray, who had become an IA instructor like her mentor, was just named Vermont's Teacher of the Year. In accepting her prestigious award, Ms. Murray exclaimed, "Mr. Masten, this one's for you!"

Before completing his college studies, Jack was drafted into the Army. At the 31st Infantry Division in Colorado Springs, Jack was assigned to the 10th Mountain Division as a ski instructor. He recalled his first experiences with skiing as a boy in Herkimer, NY: he and his friends used boards with straps attached, and made bindings from cut up inner tubes.

Jack and his sweetheart Audie have been married 64 years, and are proud of their four children and grandchildren.

The importance of Jack's church family (Calvary Bible) was shared. Jack's spirituality is obvious in his generosity not only to his church family but to so many in the wider community.

Any advice for the younger generation? Listen to your elders, and be respectful of all persons.

At age 84, Jack plans to continue to enjoy life with Audie and the family.



"We Have Stood on the Shoulders of Giants "

The Johnsbury Historical Society Living History Project has evolved into the energetic enterprise it is today thanks to the vision of some insightful town residents 45 years ago.

Established in 1973, the Johnsbury Historical Society was begun by folks who saw the need to collect and preserve the precious history of the Town of Johnsbury. Howdy Waldron, Milda Burns, Margaret Cunningham, Helen Hutchins, Lewis Waddell and many others were the first to develop a Living History Project, using audiocassette tapes. Eventually those tapes were transferred to CDs, and today all interviews are recorded on DVD. These DVDs will deteriorate in time, to be replaced by a new technology handled by a new generation.

The current Living History Project of JHS is modeled after the Story Corps Project initiated by famous oral historian Studs Terkel. JHS is privileged to be invited to listen to and record the extraordinary life stories of our remarkable interviewees.

For more information on Johnsbury History Days please check the local paper and these Web Sites...

www.northcreekdepotmuseum.com and www.johnsburyhistoricalsociety.com

Dessert with the Dead: Graveyard Walk in Union Cemetery 9/14/2018

Mary Melissa Persons Ordway

Graveyard Walk, Friday, September 14, 7 p.m.,
Union Cemetery, North Creek.

Johnsburg Historical Society and Gem Radio Theatre are considering honoring these spirits now resting peacefully at Union Cemetery in North Creek: Ella Durant, Melissa Ordway, William Waldron, William Prescott and H.I. Braley. See Page 1 story for details on the Graveyard Walk.

This was overheard recently from the gravesite at the top of the hill:

Good evening, living ones, and welcome to my final resting place up here on the hill, finest burial accommodations in the whole damn town. Now you won't mind if I puff on my cigar here a bit as we chat, would you? No, of course you don't mind, not like those so-called "ladies" in town who disappeared of me, my cigars, my living arrangements, my clothes, my free spirit.

Who's got the last laugh now? Here I am at the top of the hill, looking down on all those folks who looked down on me all my life.

Even my family disowned me, curse the lot of them. I was born Mary Persons, but I always preferred the name Melissa, much more romantic, don't you think? And where did the name "Ordway" come from? Ah, now there's a story.....

Jones Ordway was born into poverty in Stratford, VT in 1813. He came to Glens Falls in 1833(the year I was born) and would become one of the area's most successful businessmen, quite a catch, wouldn't you say?

As a young man, my handsome Jones worked in the logging industry, and soon started his own logging operation.

Eventually his business holdings reached to Indian Lake and Blue Mountain Lake and other parts of the Adirondacks and included hotels in North Creek and Indian Lake.

Oh, my man knew how to make money! He and some associates started Morgan Lumber Company, owned thousands of acres of forest

lands and limestone and marble quarries and sawmills. Then Morgan and Company merged with other companies to form International Paper Company - Ever hear of that one? Just one of the biggest companies EVER!

My Jones donated money to build a YMCA in Glens Falls so area youth would have a wholesome place to spend their time. The structure served as YMCA in Glens Falls for 80 years, although my sweetheart died before it was completed.

The name "Ordway Hall" can still be seen on the building downtown that served as temporary home for Crandall Public Library during its recent renovation.

My silly boy Jones married Clarissa Chambers of Caldwell (that was the name of Lake George) in 1835. I was only two years old then. They had two children, both of whom died in their early twenties.

He built a large brick house for "her" on Warren St. in Glens Falls, at the corner of Warren and Locust Streets, nearly across the street from the Hyde Mansion. The home currently stands empty - except for the ghosts, of course.

Ah, here's where I make my entrance with my usual flair....

In the 1860's, Jones bought a farmhouse on Old Schoolhouse Road in North River. He added on to the farmhouse, and then he hired - ahem - me! as his housekeeper. I don't mind saying I was quite a looker back then, and I WAS 20 years his junior. I think he hired me not only for my housekeeping abilities, but for my other womanly talents, if you know what I mean. You do know what I mean, don't you? Of course you do.

So my Jones and I lived at the farmhouse - except for the stupid times that he had to go back to Glens Falls to see his so-called wife and children. I wonder if she ever knew about me?

Jones and I had three children. Oh, the joy, and the sadness- all three died of diphtheria. Their little bodies are buried in a cemetery in Indian Lake.

My sweet man died in 1890. He left his brick home and \$50,00 to his so-called wife, and \$50,000 in trust for her. He left me the farm in North River and \$30,000, plus \$50,000 in a trust for me.

I stayed in that North River home for a while. Recently I heard that a woman lived there until her death last summer, a woman much like myself, who broke all the rules. Her name was Jane Castaneda, and I know we would have liked each other. Our spirits dance around together in that old house - maybe you'll see us partying it up there some starry night.

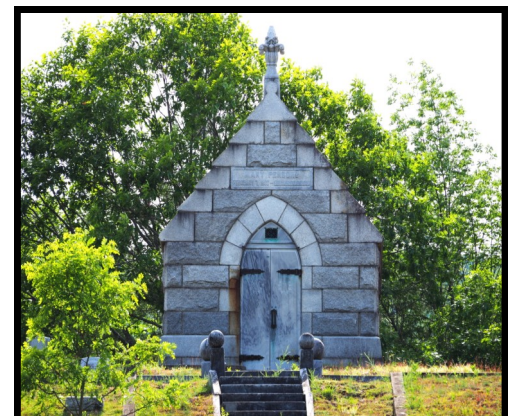
So I left the North River farm, took my money and built a house in North Creek, where I lived until my death in 1902. That house still stands in North Creek.

See that church over there? I gave money for extensive renovations to that North Creek Baptist Church, and I spent money to build my North Creek house, and I spent a TON of money to build this place - it would cost \$192, 000 in today's money. Not bad for a girl from the other side of the tracks, eh?

If you were able to get inside the mausoleum, which you can't because the key was intentionally dropped down an air vent, but if you COULD get in, you would see me laid to rest in a glass-covered coffin.

I wonder if Jones misses me. He is buried in the Bay St. Cemetery in Glens Falls, in the tallest monument in the cemetery. He is buried there with his so-called wife Clarissa and their children William and Helen. Really, do you think she ever knew about me? I think he loved me best, don't you think? Of course you do.

**When in the dark of night
We approach WITH FRIGHT
THE HALLOWED GROUND
Of souls of yore
Do we find peaceful rest or
Vestiges of GORE!
Join us as we conjure up some spirits of
Johnsburg's past!**

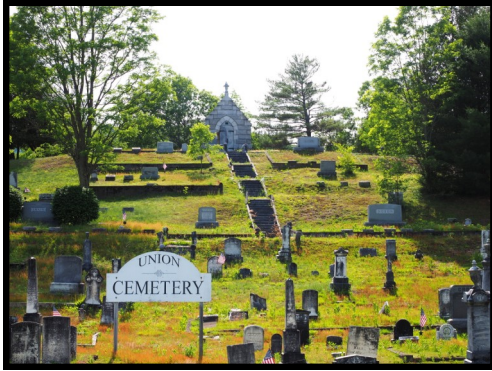


History Days

plex. Gore Mountain will again give free rides on the Hudson Chairlift and activities go from 12-4. Last year's popular "Touch a Truck" will return.

Sunday, September 16, 2 p.m.: Singer/actress Eileen Egan Mack will entertain the audience at Tannery Pond Community Center with her famous portrayal of Jeanne Robert Foster. This free program, "Voice of the Mountains," recreates the people and lore of the Adirondack Frontier in story and song. The program is based on the works of poet and author Jeanne Robert Foster.

This collaboration among Johnsbury Historical Society, North Creek Railroad Depot Museum, OTTG and GEM Radio Theatre is a positive step forward towards improving the quality of life in the Town of Johnsbury.



EILEEN EGAN MACK

An Adirondack Legacy: Recreating the People and Lore of the Adirondack Frontier in Story and Song

A treat of a performance awaits at Tannery Pond Community Center on Sunday, September 16 at 2 p.m., part of History Days weekend. The acclaimed singer/actress Eileen Egan Mack will portray Johnsbury's own Jeanne Robert Foster, a woman of the arts and social activist. This free program is based upon the works of Foster.

The program, "Voice of the Mountains," is described as "a one-woman theatre piece based on the life and writings of Jeanne Robert Foster. Appearing in period costume, singer/actress Eileen Egan Mack portrays Foster in this hour-long production. Eileen weaves the fabric of Jeanne's life and that of her neighbors into a captivating evening of monologue, stories, songs and readings from Adirondack Portraits: A Piece of Time. Recalling the human side of the rugged pioneer days in the Adirondacks, she brings to life Foster's neighbors such as the "rooted in the earth" Mooneys and the "savage of temper" Old Man Wamsley. Whether sitting in a rural town hall, a college library or a dramatically lit theatre, you will feel as if you were there on the front porch of Jeanne's Adirondack homestead as Eileen Egan Mack takes you back to a special piece of time. It's a journey you are sure to treasure."

Eileen Talks about the Program:

"Jeanne has left us with a tremendous legacy. I wanted people to know about these mountain folk, about Jeanne's writings and about Jeanne. I felt compelled to bring the stories to life and to share them with audiences. While doing the show, I have met people whose stories, if told, would be as appealing as those in the show. And that is why I love Jeanne's writings! She understood how extraordinary ordinary folks can be!!"

About the performer:

Eileen Egan Mack grew up in the foothills of New York's Adirondack Mountains in the village of Ballston Lake. Born into a talented theatrical family, she is a graduate of the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. She resides in the North Country, where she has been a teacher, museum educator, newspaper writer, adjunct college faculty member and speech/language therapist.

As a singer, she enjoys performing jazz standards, show tunes, folk and classical music. She has appeared in many regional venues, including the Palmer Street Coffeehouse, JC's Jazz Club and the Kent-Delord House Museum. Eileen received a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts to support her production of Voice of the Mountains.

JEANNE ROBERT FOSTER

Author Jeanne Robert Foster was born into poverty in the remote Adirondack Mountains of New York State in 1879, the daughter of a lumberjack and a teacher. At the age of 17, she left the mountains to become an editor, a poet, reporter, model, playwright and social pioneer. She was a Gibson Girl and posed for Harrison Fisher; her face appeared on the cover of Vanity Fair Magazine. This led her to a love affair with art and her work as an art agent for John Quinn. She was an editor and writer for Albert Shaw and counted as friends John Butler Yeats, James Joyce, Ford Maddox Ford and Ezra Pound.

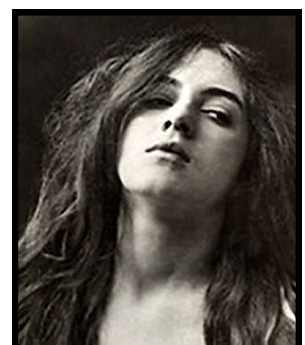
Despite her global travels and cosmopolitan encounters, in her heart she never really left her native North Woods and those neighbors of yesteryear. Throughout her life, she drew strength from those mountains. As a timeless tribute to the Adirondacks, she has bequeathed to us a collection of prose and poetry in Adirondack Portraits: A Piece of Time, edited by Noel Riedinger-Johnson.

Quotable Quotes

Quotable Quotes

"..... she never lost her love for Crane Mountain and the mountain people she knew. Her verses describing them were acclaimed by urban critics and are still loved by local people here."

--- Regarding poet, artist, actress, critic Jeanne Robert Foster of Johnsbury, from "River, Rails and Ski Trails: The History of the Town of Johnsbury" by Johnsbury Historical Society, 1994



Society Snapshot ~ Ellen Schaefer

The Johnsbury Historical Society is pleased to welcome Ellen Schaefer to our Board of Trustees. Ellen returned to the area, with her husband Greg, upon retirement from a career in Nursing and Health Care Administration and holds degrees in both disciplines. She spent the last several years of her career at the Research Foundation of the University at Albany where she served as a Senior Education Specialist. Local history has always been of interest to her and she currently serves as the President of the Board of Trustees of the North Creek Railway Depot Preservation Association that operates the North Creek Depot Museum.

The Schaefers chose the Town of Johnsbury for their permanent home after living in Clifton Park, NY and Chestertown, where they owned a home for 36 years, due to Greg's deep family roots here. Greg's grandparents owned a home in Bakers Mills since the 1920's, where his grandmother came to recover from breathing problems caused by the air pollution from the indus-

trial city of Schenectady. In 1935, his father Carl built the first ski tow in New York State at the old Ski Bowl with the help of Johnny Morehouse and the Alexander Brothers Garage. In 1936, he moved that tow over to "Skiland" on Peaceful Valley Road and started the first North Creek Ski School. Remnants of the tow still sit on what is now State Land.

Ellen is dedicated to preserving the rich historical heritage of the area and creating avenues to involve students and help them learn and appreciate their own history and culture.



Grant News

Johnsbury Historical Society was delighted to receive a generous grant from Community Fund for the Gore Mountain Region/Adirondack Foundation in August 2017. The funds were used to print additional copies of our eight page newsletter, including color photos. Johnsbury Central School, Town of Johnsbury Library, Tannery Pond Community Center and North Creek Depot Museum had all requested more newsletters when their supplies had run out. With grant funding, those organizations were re-supplied with newsletters for the community and for visitors.

The grant awards ceremony took place at Seagle Music Colony in Schroon Lake on August 25.

From the Judge Tim and Barbara Murphy Endowment Fund, administered by Adirondack Foundation, Johnsbury Historical Society has received its annual disbursement of approximately \$1200. These welcome additions to the Society's slim budget enables JHS to fulfill its mission to promote, protect, and preserve the precious history of the Town of Johnsbury.

Our honored friends and colleagues!

From left to right

Pat Carr

Sally Heidrich

Larry Carr

Breakin' Up Is Hard To Do

Two very very very very very very special members of Johnsbury Historical Society have retired from the Board of Directors. Larry Carr and Sally Heidrich have served many years to advance JHS' mission to promote the history of the Town of Johnsbury.

Sally has served on the Board for more than a quarter of a century, dating back to her co-authorship of the local history reference book, River, Rails and Ski Trails. Involved in every committee and program of JHS, Sally is most noted for her own artistic ability and her talent for showcasing the work of other artists in exhibits. This active involved creative energetic delightful octogenarian will be missed.

Larry has served as JHS Treasurer for many years. His meticulous monthly and annual financial statements have been essential to the professional operation of JHS for our New York State charter, grant writing, tax filing and budget preparation. Larry's generous service to us and to many other town charitable organizations has made a huge difference to the Town of Johnsbury.



JHS History Award Liam Connelly

The 114th Commencement Ceremony of JCS was held 6/23/2018. Johnsbury Historical Society's \$250 History Scholarship Award was presented to graduate Liam Connelly. Congratulations, Liam!



JHS At Johnsbury History Days 2017



GEM RADIO THEATRE

New in Town: Gem Radio Theatre

A promising new presence is in town: Gem Radio Theatre, a sole proprietor business started by Robin Jay of North River in 2016. This is a small-town low-budget group that likes to create.

Robin and company began working with Gem*Boy Productions, performing murder mystery dinner theater in the area, and branched out as Gem Radio Theatre to do staged Radio Plays, where radio show scripts are performed live onstage with voice actors using simple props and the sound effects produced by live foley artists using everyday items as opposed to tech created effects. The group has performed "It's a Wonderful Life", "The Lone Ranger Rides Again", and "Horrors You Can Hear" to date.

The mission of Gem Radio Theatre is to strengthen multi-generational relationships in families and communities by creating opportunities to experience theatrical arts and old time radio performances.

Robin states: "Community Outreach is important to us, and we are offering free family friendly Movies by the River again this summer with support from the Town of Johnsbury Occupancy Tax program. We contribute to many groups that serve our community. We love projects that are unique, relevant, and interesting. This is our first collaboration with the Johnsbury Historical Society and we are looking forward to an amazing debut of the Graveyard Walk at Union Cemetery."

JHS is delighted to welcome Gem Radio Theatre to the cultural scene of the Town of Johnsbury. This is an exciting addition to Town of Johnsbury's unique attractions!



Scene from "Horrors You Can Hear"

ARCHITECTURE PRESENTATION

Architecture presentation

As Johnsbury History Weekend 2017 came to a close we hosted an Open House displaying numerous artifacts from storage by JHS Archivist Michael Anderson and a slide presentation by architectural historian Delbert Chambers titled "Homes of Johnsbury, an Architectural Perspective". (*He noted that Johnsbury Homes was a brother to Sherlock.*) The Town of Johnsbury has many existing examples of architectural style beginning with log cabins from c.1800. Noted was the non-existence of many high-style structures and perhaps no pure examples of specific styles, but that is generally the norm for rural architecture. Certainly the "Greek Revival" of the 1820's - 1840's is well exemplified but it seems to be not as prominent as it is in some neighboring towns. Surprising Chambers is a relatively disproportionate number of "Four-Square" homes of the late 19th century through 1930's, or even later as is typical of rural communities. Also very well represented is the "Craftsman Bungalow" of roughly the same period. A few "Queen Anne" buildings exist and some have been lost due to fire or fault... but that can be said of all fine buildings in so many communities. Discussed was the fact that the preponderance of homes are of utilitarian design by local builders of no academic training and are constructed in a local vernacular. That is not to say that these are without uniqueness of the individual builder very often includes design aspects of formal architectural style. This 'style' then is called "Folk" houses. The presentation was well received by a full house. Johnsbury retains some interesting architecture that can be appreciated by anyone that cares about aspect of the Town's evolution.



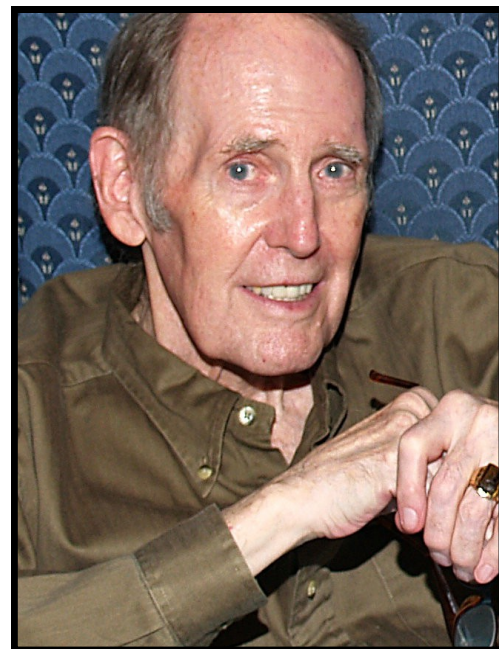
JHS RECEIVES LYLE DYE DONATION

Spring 2018: JHS Receives Donation

Johnsbury Historical Society has received a welcome gift from Lyle Dye, former president of JHS and founder of Our Town Theatre Group. The donation consists of several dozen books relating to Theodore Roosevelt, so significant to the history of the Town of Johnsbury.

Mr. Dye's North Creek home houses a "Roosevelt Room" containing books, posters and artifacts relating to TR. The books were donated to Johnsbury Historical Society, and the posters and artifacts were gifted to the North Creek Railroad Depot Museum, where they can be displayed in a museum setting.

When the books are accessed into the JHS collection, Johnsbury residents will be welcome to borrow these treasured items from the Society.



JHS Annual Luncheon Draws a Full House

JHS Annual Luncheon Draws a Full House

In between snowstorms in December 2017, Johnsburg Historical Society hosted its annual holiday luncheon at Inn on Gore Restaurant in North Creek on December 11. More than 50 people attended the event, which featured guest speaker Chuck Barton, Chief Operating Officer for Barton Mines International.

In a power point presentation, Mr. Barton described the history of the garnet mining business which has been run by the Barton family for 139 years in the Town of Johnsburg. This combination of a mining company and a family company has a hugely successful past as well as a bright future, with enough garnet here to mine for another 30 to 40 years. New projects are being developed as different uses for garnet are be-

ing discovered. The company is proud to use natural materials for emerging needs in the garnet industry, and it appears that those needs will continue to be addressed in the future by the upcoming 6th and 7th generations of the Barton family.

Following the presentation, a buffet luncheon was served and an open meeting of Johnsburg Historical Society was conducted.



We Need Your Help!

An ongoing invitation from Johnsburg Historical Society is extended to the public for involvement in Society activities. There are many levels of participation to consider, from a one-time involvement to frequent support. We need your presence in many areas: filing, stuffing envelopes, archiving, telephoning, taking photos. Would you like to write an article on a topic of local history for the newspaper? How about interviewing a beloved family member for our Living History collection? We can help! Call 518-251-5788 or email johnsburghhistory@gmail.com

Or Current Resident

Johnsburg Historical Society
P.O. Box 144
Wevertown N.Y., 12886

